

DATE: July 27, 2000

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: KECN-4

SUBJECT: Supplement Analysis for the Watershed Management Program EIS, (DOE/EIS-0265/SA-37)

Mark Shaw – KEWN-4  
Fish and Wildlife Project Manager

**Proposed Action:** McCoy Creek/Cunha Ranches Restoration Project

**Project No:** 2000-066-00

**Budget No:** F5624

**Watershed Management Techniques or Actions Addressed Under This Supplement Analysis (See App. A of the Watershed Management Program EIS):**

1.6 Install Large Woody Debris Structures

1.7 Install Other Habitat Complexity Structures

1.8 Bank Protection through Vegetation Management

1.16 Spawning Habitat Enhancement

1.17 Rearing Habitat Enhancements

2.1 Maintain Healthy Riparian Plant Communities

2.2 Plant/Protect Conifers in Riparian Areas for Thermal Cover

6.1 Deferred Grazing

**Location:** 20 miles southwest of LaGrande, Oregon, near Starkey in Union County.

**Proposed by:** Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR), and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW).

**Description of the Proposed Action:** McCoy Creek historically has been a productive steelhead stream. Management practices over the years have degraded the habitat. McCoy Creek suffers from high summer water temperatures, winter icing, lack of overstory canopy, unstable streambanks and poor riparian and instream habitat diversity. ODFW will develop a 15-year lease agreement that will exclude grazing on three riparian pastures. Portions of the existing pasture fences will be reconstructed. Large woody debris will be added to accelerate large pool development. Approximately 3000 feet of abandoned railroad grade will be obliterated. Riparian trees and shrubs will be planted. ODFW and the CTUIR will maintain and monitor the project for the term of the contract.

**Analysis:** The compliance checklist for this project was completed by Allen Childs of the CTUIR and meets the standards and guidelines for the Watershed Management Program Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Record of Decision (ROD).

Snake River chinook salmon, and steelhead trout are the potentially affected listed threatened or endangered species in the vicinity of the project. BPA has determined that the proposed activities may affect, but would not adversely affect these listed species. We received concurrence on this finding from National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on July 14, 2000. A no effect determination was made for the other listed species potentially in the area (Gray wolf, Lynx, Bull trout, Bald eagle, Howell's spectacular thelpody, and Ute ladies' tresses).

Archaeologists from the CTUIR will conduct cultural resources surveys by July 31, and will consult with the SHPO. The following stipulations shall be made part of the contract: 1) no ground-disturbing work shall take place prior to the concurrence from the SHPO; and 2) a copy of the concurrence from the SHPO shall be sent to Nancy Weintraub at BPA.

**Findings:** The project is generally consistent with Sections 7.6D of the Northwest Power Planning Council's Fish and Wildlife Program. This Supplement Analysis finds 1) that the proposed actions are substantially consistent with the Watershed Management Program EIS (DOE/EIS-0265) and ROD, and; 2) that there are no new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the proposed actions or their impacts. Therefore, no further NEPA documentation is required.

/s/ Nancy H. Weintraub

Nancy H. Weintraub

Environmental Project Lead - KECN

CONCUR: /s/ Robert W. Beraud for  
Thomas C. McKinney  
NEPA Compliance Officer

DATE: 7/27/00

**Attachments:**

NEPA Compliance Checklist

cc: (w/attachment)

Mr. Allen Childs, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation